(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said policy is being overhauled; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have announced a New Industrial Policy and other concessions for the North-Eastern region on 24th December, 1997. The Industrial Policy for the region aims at attracting investors by giving them the following incentives/concessions/subsidies:—

(i) Excise and Income Tax exemptions for a period of 10 years.

(ii) Subsidies, such as Transport Subsidy, Capital Investment Subsidy, Central Interest Subsidy and premium for Comprehensive Insurance on capital investment.

(iii) Promotion of infrastructure development through Schemes like Growth Centre of Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion and Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre (IIDC) of Ministry of Small Scale Industry.

(iv) A financial institution namely, North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) has been established as a Special Purpose Vehicle for development of the North-Eastern region and is the nodal agency for disbursement of subsidies in the region.

(c) and (d) To assess the impact of the North-East Industrial Policy (NEIP) on the industrialization of North-Eastern region a study is being proposed through an independent Consultant.

Export and production of coffee

1095. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coffee produced in the country and the total consumption in the country;

(b) the steps being taken in improving the coffee cultivation in the country;

(c) the total export turnover of coffee during the last three years; and

(d) the estimated demand of coffee in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The total quantity of production and consumption of coffee in the country during the last three years has been as under:—

(in MT)

Year	Production	Consumption*
1999-00	292000	55000
2000-01	301200	60000
2001-02	300600	64000

*Calendar year-wise.

(b) For overall development of coffee industry and to enhance coffee production, the Govt. of India through Coffee Board has been implementing various plan schemes under which various types of financial/technical assistance are provided to the coffee growers. Further, thrust is being given for increasing productivity of coffee and improving quality of the produce to achieve competitiveness in the international markets.

(c) The export turnover of coffee during 1999-00, 2000-01 and 2001-02 have been Rs. 1901.21 crore, Rs. 1376.90 and Rs. 1049.84 have respectively.

(d) The estimated demand of the coffee in the country is between 55000—65000 MT per annum.

Rejection of consignment of soya-corn blend from U.S.

1096. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently rejected U.S. food consignment of soya-corn blend;